



DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

Fish and Wildlife Service

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U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE AND THE NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION SIGN MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO PROMOTE WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

The Interior Department's U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service today announced it has joined with the National Rifle Association (NRA) to promote cooperation in wildlife conservation and management efforts. Service Director John Turner and Wayne LaPierre, NRA's Executive Vice President, signed a memorandum of understanding providing a framework for the two organizations to plan and carry out projects and information efforts on national wildlife refuges and for other Service land management activities.

The signing ceremony took place in the Service's Washington, D.C., headquarters. "This agreement will benefit many visitors to our national wildlife refuges," said Turner. "The Service and the NRA share the goals of enhancing wildlife habitat, improving access for the physically challenged, and ensuring safe and enjoyable hunting experiences."

The new partnership affords local NRA chapters across the country the opportunity to work with nearby Service national wildlife refuge personnel in planning and implementing mutually beneficial programs. For example, the NRA will soon be working with the Service to help make hunting on refuges accessible to physically challenged sportsmen and women. In addition, the Service and the NRA will cooperate on information programs about wildlife.